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During the preliminary stages of column installation with respect to a foundation or a podium slab, it is, as was earlier mentioned, very important that the column be stabilized in an upright position until it has become securely anchored in place. The present invention offers a unique openable and closeable, tripodically supported collar structure having legs which can rest on a foundation or on a podium slab, and an openable and closeable collar which can be suitably closed on and around the outside of an upright column, relatively near to the base. This structure provides initial stabilizing support against undesired tilting of an about-to-be installed column. When the column has been anchored in place, this collar support structure can be removed for use with the installation of another column.

With the base of a column received within the bucket-well structure of this invention, and according to practice of this invention, a suitable conventional grouting substance, initially in a fluid-flowable form, is poured into the bucket-well to fill the same around the outside of the received base end of a column. This grouting substance, referred to herein as an anchoring material, cures and hardens to capture, contain, and "position-lock" the base of a column. Preferably, the invention is employed with a hollow, tubular type column, and the wall in this column, near the base, is furnished with at least one throughbore, or access opening, that opens to the inside and to the outside of the column in order to enable poured grout within the bucket-well mentioned to flow into the inside of the column, thus to create a through-wall, bridging anchoring portion of the anchoring material, which greatly enhances enhance greatly the anchoring and securing of the base of a column in the bucket-well.

Preferably also, an optional foot plate is anchored across the bottom end of a column, with this plate having a perimeter which is larger than the footprint of the column, thus to create a shoulder/shelf-like-extension which circumsurrounds the outside

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be precisely located in a horizontal plan condition as desired in the building frame structure.

Once a column is properly in place with its base correctly positioned and received within a bucket-well, and with the column stabilized by a brace structure, such as structure 38, a conventional, free-flowing fluid grout substance, such as that shown at 58 in Figs. 2 and 3, is poured into the bucket-well to fill the same in the space between the column and the inside walls of the bucket-well, thus to complete the anchoring process upon setting and hardening of this poured substance. Substance 58 is also referred to herein as a bulk anchoring material, and the region of this substance which is disposed in the well around the column is referred to as a skirt.

With regard to the employment of such a grouting substance, it is preferred that at least one of the side walls in the base of a column be provided with a suitable opening, or through-wall passage, which opens both to the inside and to the outside of the column. Such an opening provides an opportunity for poured grout to flow into the interior of the base of a column, thus further to assure secure confinement and anchoring of the base of the column. In Figs. 2 and 3, such an opening is shown generally at 12b in column 12. Grout occupying the outside of the base of column 12 is referred to as a volume, and the portion of grout which extends through passage 12b is referred to as a continuum portion, and as a bridging anchoring portion.

With curing and hardening of the poured grout material, any tendency of the secured column base to lift upwardly in the bucket-well is resisted both by the "bridging" of grout from the outside to the inside of the column base through opening 12b, and also by a wedging action which occurs between the grout skirt and the bucket-well's sloped walls 20c as urged by foot plate shoulder 49a.